

Docket No. 255595US26PCT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF: Takashi SHIMIZU, et al.

SERIAL NO: 10/500,852

GAU: 3681

FILED: May 31, 2005

EXAMINER: D. D. KNIGHT

FOR: PLANETARY GEARSET

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 CFR 1.97

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA 22313

SIR:

Applicant(s) wish to disclose the following information.

REFERENCES

- ☒ The applicant(s) wish to make of record the reference(s) cited in the attached Japanese Office Action (with partial English translation) and listed on the attached form PTO-1449. Copies of the listed reference(s) are attached, where required, as are either statements of relevancy or any readily available English translations of pertinent portions of any non-English language reference(s).
- ☐ A check or credit card payment form is attached in the amount required under 37 CFR §1.17(p).

RELATED CASES

- ☐ Attached is a list of applicant's pending application(s), published application(s) or issued patent(s) which may be related to the present application. In accordance with the waiver of 37 CFR 1.98 dated September 21, 2004, copies of the cited pending applications are not provided. Cited published and/or issued patents, if any, are listed on the attached PTO form 1449.
- ☐ A check or credit card payment form is attached in the amount required under 37 CFR §1.17(p).

CERTIFICATION


- ☒ Each item of information contained in this information disclosure statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this statement.
- ☐ No item of information contained in this information disclosure statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application or, to the knowledge of the undersigned, having made reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual designated in 37 CFR §1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this statement.

DEPOSIT ACCOUNT

- ☐ Please charge any additional fees for the papers being filed herewith and for which no check or credit card payment is enclosed herewith, or credit any overpayment to deposit account number 15-0030.

Respectfully submitted,

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[Remarks from the Examiner]

Claims: 1 to 3

References: 1, 2

Remarks:

The cited reference 2 describes that, in a planetary gear bearing lubrication system in which pinion gears are rotatably retained via bearings by pinion pins, an oil sump is formed at a location corresponding to the axial end of the pinion pins in order to store the lubricating oil that runs down along an oil passage into the oil sump, and is intercommunicated with the bearings of the pinion pins. A person skilled in the art would have easily devised a technology to apply the aforementioned configuration described in the cited reference 2 to the planetary gear bearing lubrication system described in the cited reference 1, so as to achieve the invention as described in claims 1 and 2 of the present application.

Further, it is within a range of design variation for a person skilled in the art to change a configuration of the oil sump so that a supply amount of the lubricating oil is adjusted, as claimed in claim 3 of the present application.

List of Cited References

1. Japanese Patent Application Publication No. 2001-227625
2. Microfilm in Japanese Utility Model Application No. 02-031994 (Japanese Utility Model Application Publication No. 03-123148)